CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A recordable and/or rewritable recording medium to record data comprising:

a Lead-in area;
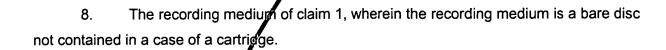
a Lead-out area; and

a user data area;

wherein the recording medium is a disc, said recording medium stores write protection information in the RMD (Recording Management Data) field of RMA area to protect the data recorded on the recording medium from unwanted overwriting or erasing.

2. The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the disc satisfies a DVD-RW (digital Versatile Disc Rewritable) specification.

3. The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the write protection information is stored in physically separate locations at a plurality of times.

4. The recording medium of claim 3, wherein when the writing protection information read from one of the plurality of physically separate locations matches the writing protection information read from another one of the physically separate locations, the disc is set to a write protection state.

5. The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the disc comprises a recording information area, distinct from the Lead-in area, the Lead-out area and the user data rea, and including RMD fields, wherein the RMD fields store information indicative of pre-use certification and defect management in use.

6. The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the RMD fields are grouped and the same write protection information is stored in the RMD fields belonging to the same group.

7. The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the write protection information is stored in a byte position BP3 of RMD field 0, and information indicative of types of disc, indicating whether the disc satisfies the DVD-RW specification, is stored in byte positions BP0 and BP1 of the RMD field 0.

18

8.   The recording medium of claim 1, wherein the recording medium is a bare disc not contained in a case of a cartridge.